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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (3 PAGES), 3  
SHEETS OF FORM PTO-1449 WITH 63 CITED REFERENCES  
(ALL ACCOMPANIED BY EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE)

Applicant : James R. GROSS et al.

Serial No. : 09/774,248

Filed : January 30, 2001

For : ABSORBENT PRODUCTS WITH IMPROVED VERTICAL  
WICKING AND REWET CAPABILITY



Attorney : RCS/sc

File No. : 1313/1G952US2

Mailed : May 21, 2001

Mailer:

7067409149

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Name (Print) Jessica Lopez Signature Jessica Lopez

Customer No.:



07278

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1313/1G952US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

James R. GROSS; Brian E. BOEHMER; John P. ERSPAMER; and  
John Perry BAKER

Serial No.: 09/774,248

Confirmation No.: 9852

Filed: January 30, 2001

For: ABSORBENT PRODUCTS WITH IMPROVED VERTICAL WICKING AND  
REWET CAPABILITY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a  
copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

This submission is filed before a first action on the merits has been mailed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, if the Commissioner determines that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above deposit account for any deficiency.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

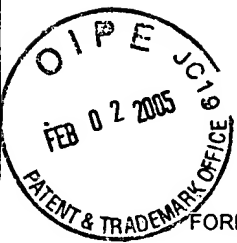


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Registration No. 30,499  
Attorney for Applicants

Dated: May 21, 2001

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(212) 527-7700



FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

SHEET 1 OF 3  
(REV. 7-80)**LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 1313/1G952US2  
APPLICANT: James R. GrossSERIAL NO: 09/774,248  
FILING DATE: January 30, 2001  
CONFIRMATION NO: 9852**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| <u>*EXAMINER</u><br><u>INITIALS</u> | <u>DOCUMENT</u><br><u>NUMBER</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>NAME</u>         | <u>CLASS</u> | <u>SUBCLASS</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                                     | 1. 2,929,154                     | 03/22/60    | Finnegan            | 34           | 92              | 05/24/57           |
|                                     | 2. 3,017,304                     | 01/16/62    | Burgeni             | 154          | 54              | 05/24/56           |
|                                     | 3. 3,224,986                     | 12/21/65    | Butler et al.       | 260          | 9               | 02/23/77           |
|                                     | 4. 3,332,909                     | 07/25/67    | Farnham et al.      | 260          | 47              | 07/15/65           |
|                                     | 5. 3,669,103                     | 06/13/72    | Harper et al.       | 128          | 156             | 05/31/66           |
|                                     | 6. 3,670,731                     | 06/20/72    | Harmon              | 128          | 284             | 05/20/66           |
|                                     | 7. 3,905,863                     | 09/16/75    | Ayers               | 162          | 113             | 04/01/74           |
|                                     | 8. 3,938,522                     | 02/17/76    | Repke               | 128          | 287             | 09/11/73           |
|                                     | 9. 3,994,771                     | 11/30/76    | Morgan, Jr. et al.  | 162          | 113             | 05/30/75           |
|                                     | 10. 4,076,673                    | 02/28/78    | Burkholder, Jr.     | 260          | 29.2            | 09/27/76           |
|                                     | 11. 4,098,996                    | 07/04/78    | Ryan et al.         | 536          | 57              | 02/22/77           |
|                                     | 12. 4,223,677                    | 09/23/80    | Anderson            | 128          | 287             | 05/11/79           |
|                                     | 13. 4,425,186                    | 01/10/84    | May et al.          | 162          | 158             | 03/24/81           |
|                                     | 14. 4,432,833                    | 02/21/84    | Breese              | 162          | 158             | 02/25/82           |
|                                     | 15. 4,443,512                    | 04/17/84    | Delvaux             | 428          | 162             | 09/22/81           |
|                                     | 16. 4,573,988                    | 03/04/86    | Pieniak et al.      | 604          | 379             | 05/07/84           |
|                                     | 17. 4,596,567                    | 06/24/86    | Iskra               | 604          | 368             | 08/17/84           |
|                                     | 18. 4,612,231                    | 09/16/86    | Bouchette et al.    | 428          | 167             | 09/24/84           |
|                                     | 19. 4,731,269                    | 03/15/88    | Hansen et al.       | 428          | 36              | 01/27/86           |
|                                     | 20. 4,908,175                    | 03/13/90    | Angstadt            | 264          | 113             | 08/09/88           |
|                                     | 21. 4,927,582                    | 05/22/90    | Bryson              | 264          | 113             | 03/17/88           |
|                                     | 22. 5,009,650                    | 04/23/91    | Bernardin           | 604          | 378             | 08/06/87           |
|                                     | 23. 5,028,224                    | 07/02/91    | Pieper et al.       | 425          | 80.100          | 01/09/90           |
|                                     | 24. 5,041,104                    | 08/20/91    | Seal                | 604          | 367             | 07/27/88           |
|                                     | 25. 5,068,079                    | 11/26/91    | Gustafsson          | 264          | 518             | 09/26/90           |
|                                     | 26. 5,128,082                    | 07/07/92    | Makoui              | 264          | 112             | 04/20/90           |
|                                     | 27. 5,147,343                    | 09/15/92    | Kellenberger        | 604          | 368             | 04/10/89           |
|                                     | 28. 5,149,335                    | 09/22/92    | Kellenberger et al. | 604          | 372             | 02/23/90           |
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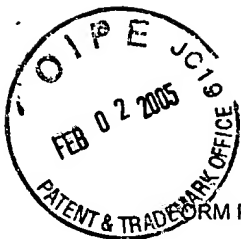
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

SHEET 2 OF 3  
(REV. 7-80)**LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 1313/1G952US2  
APPLICANT: James R. GrossSERIAL NO: 09/774,248  
FILING DATE: January 30, 2001  
CONFIRMATION NO: 9852\*EXAMINER  
INITIALS

|               |          |                          |     |      |          |
|---------------|----------|--------------------------|-----|------|----------|
| 30. 5,188,624 | 02/23/93 | Young, Sr. et al.        | 604 | 378  | 01/16/90 |
| 31. 5,227,107 | 07/13/93 | Dickenson et al.         | 264 | 113  | 09/14/92 |
| 32. 5,269,049 | 12/14/93 | Gustafsson et al.        | 19  | 304  | 09/09/92 |
| 33. 5,316,601 | 05/31/94 | Hebbard et al.           | 156 | 62.2 | 10/25/90 |
| 34. 5,378,528 | 01/03/95 | Makoui                   | 428 | 219  | 10/15/91 |
| 35. 5,389,181 | 02/14/95 | Vukos et al.             | 156 | 264  | 10/20/93 |
| 36. 5,401,267 | 03/28/95 | Couture-Dorschner et al. | 604 | 384  | 06/21/94 |
| 37. 5,429,788 | 07/04/95 | Ribble et al.            | 264 | 510  | 03/28/94 |
| 38. 5,445,777 | 08/29/95 | Noel et al.              | 264 | 113  | 12/08/94 |
| 39. 5,522,810 | 06/04/96 | Allen, Jr. et al.        | 604 | 366  | 06/05/95 |
| 40. 5,547,541 | 08/20/96 | Hansen et al.            | 162 | 12   | 02/16/94 |
| 41. 5,549,589 | 08/27/96 | Horney et al.            | 604 | 366  | 02/03/95 |
| 42. 5,558,832 | 09/24/96 | Noel et al.              | 264 | 510  | 08/25/95 |
| 43. 5,607,414 | 03/04/97 | Richards et al.          | 604 | 378  | 07/03/95 |
| 44. 5,647,863 | 07/15/97 | Hammons et al.           | 604 | 378  | 09/21/95 |
| 45. 5,693,162 | 12/02/97 | Gustafsson et al.        | 156 | 62.2 | 02/03/95 |
| 46. 5,776,308 | 07/07/98 | Sears et al.             | 162 | 158  | 10/10/96 |
| 47. 5,795,439 | 08/18/98 | Euripides et al.         | 162 | 100  | 01/31/97 |
| 48. 5,800,416 | 09/01/98 | Seger et al.             | 604 | 366  | 04/17/96 |
| 49. 5,807,916 | 09/15/98 | Collette et al.          | 524 | 364  | 04/10/96 |
| 50. 5,843,055 | 12/01/98 | Seger                    | 604 | 365  | 07/24/96 |
| 51. 5,849,211 | 12/15/98 | Hase et al.              | 252 | 62.9 | 11/27/95 |
| 52. 5,885,516 | 03/23/99 | Christensen              | 264 | 518  | 09/06/95 |
| 53. 5,921,064 | 07/13/99 | O'Connor                 | 53  | 429  | 06/16/97 |
| 54. 5,922,163 | 07/13/99 | Helynranta et al.        | 156 | 296  | 02/28/96 |
| 55. 5,927,051 | 07/27/99 | O'Connor et al.          | 53  | 429  | 07/08/97 |
| 56. 5,956,926 | 09/28/99 | O'Connor et al.          | 53  | 429  | 09/29/97 |
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| 58. 5,987,851 | 11/23/99 | O'Connor                 | 53  | 429  | 05/20/98 |
| 59. 6,007,653 | 12/28/99 | Pirinen et al.           | 156 | 148  | 05/31/96 |
| 60. 6,009,689 | 01/04/00 | O'Connor                 | 53  | 429  | 02/17/98 |
| 61. 6,067,775 | 05/30/00 | O'Connor                 | 53  | 429  | 11/18/97 |



FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

SHEET 3 OF 3  
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DOCKET NO.: 1313/1G952US2  
APPLICANT: James R. GrossSERIAL NO: 09/774,248  
FILING DATE: January 30, 2001  
CONFIRMATION NO: 9852\*EXAMINER  
INITIALS**U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

62. 09/325,764

Baer et al.

06/08/99

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *EXAMINER<br><u>INITIALS</u> | DOCUMENT<br><u>NUMBER</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>CLASS</u> | <u>SUBCLASS</u> | TRANSLATION<br><u>YES</u> <u>NO</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
|                              | 63. WO 00/74620 A1        | 12/14/00    | PCT            |              |                 |                                     |

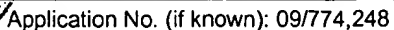
**OTHER REFERENCES****(INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)**\*EXAMINER  
INITIALS

EXAMINER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONSIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*EXAMINER:**

Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (3 PAGES), 1  
SHEET OF FORM PTO-1449 WITH 7 CITED REFERENCES  
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*srch. Rpt*

Applicant : James R. GROSS et al.

Serial No. : 09/774,248

Filed : January 30, 2001

For : ABSORBENT PRODUCTS WITH IMPROVED VERTICAL  
WICKING AND REWET CAPABILITY



Attorney : RCS/mjp

File No. : 1313/1G952US2

*EL 903059490-45*

Mailed : July 12, 2001

Mailer: *B.W. Lee*

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Date 7/12/01 Label No. EL903059490-43

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY UP TO \$300.00 OR  
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DOCUMENT TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 04-0100

B.W. LEE B. W. Lee  
Name (Print) Signature

Customer No.:



07278

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1313/1G952US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

James R. Gross; Brian E. Boehmer; John P. Erspamer; John Perry  
Baker

Serial No.: 09/774,248

Confirmation No.:

Filed: January 30, 2001

For: ABSORBENT PRODUCTS WITH IMPROVED VERTICAL WICKING AND  
REWET CAPABILITY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a

copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The undersigned is also enclosing herewith a copy of a Search Report issued June 12, 2001 for the World counterpart of the present patent application (Application No. PCT/US01/02971), in which the presently disclosed references were cited. Since a translation of the Search Report is also enclosed, or the Search Report utilizes conventional codes to characterize each cited reference, it is believed that the applicants in the above-identified patent application have now met the "concise explanation" requirement of 37 C.F.R. 1.98.

This submission is filed before a first action on the merits has been mailed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in


compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, if the Commissioner determines that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above deposit account for any deficiency.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 12, 2001



Marie L. Collazo  
Registration No. 44,085  
Agent for Applicant(s)

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805 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 527-7700

Serial No. 09/774,248

Docket No. 1313/1G952US2

**LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 1313/1G952US2 SERIAL NO: 09/774,248  
APPLICANT: James R. Gross and FILING DATE: 01/30/01  
Brian E. Boehmer CONFIRMATION NO:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| <u>*EXAMINER</u><br><u>INITIALS</u> | <u>DOCUMENT</u><br><u>NUMBER</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>CLASS</u> | <u>SUBCLASS</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                                     | 1. 4259958                       | 4/7/81      |             |              |                 |                    |
|                                     | 2. 3838694                       | 10/1/74     |             |              |                 |                    |
|                                     | 3. 3993820                       | 11/23/76    |             |              |                 |                    |
|                                     | 4. 5262223                       | 11/16/93    |             |              |                 |                    |
|                                     | 5. 5961757                       | 10/5/99     |             |              |                 |                    |
|                                     | 6. 5843055                       | 12/1/98     |             |              |                 |                    |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| <u>*EXAMINER</u><br><u>INITIALS</u> | <u>DOCUMENT</u><br><u>NUMBER</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>CLASS</u> | <u>SUBCLASS</u> | <u>TRANSLATION</u><br><u>YES</u> <u>NO</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--|
|                                     | 7. 9522952                       | 8/31/95     | WIPO           |              |                 |  |

**OTHER REFERENCES**  
**(INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)**

\*EXAMINER  
INITIALS

EXAMINER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONSIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.